

## WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY

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a second, there is  
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definitely. If there  
in the neighbor-  
ly die out through  
se it would take  
s the loss of its  
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for him to breed  
in bees? It is gen-  
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nly variability in  
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sion. Instincts do  
the honey-gathering  
paired at the same  
his point, however,  
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agree that colonies  
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think it is a pity  
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rm is only slightly  
to the good.

WM. L. COPER.

advocates of proper  
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intention to "throw  
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fact, we regard the  
s one of the "major  
ing. We shall be  
thers of our readers,  
that may have been  
these lines.—W.W.

We hear a great deal about keeping the boys on the farm and about giving the boys a chance. This is all right, but how often do we hear about keeping the girls on the farm and giving the girls a chance? Yet year by year the girls are leaving the farm, mainly because they desire a chance for some sort of economic independence. But if country life is to be made attractive and interesting, it is just as necessary that the girls be kept on the farm as the boys. Of the girls who go for school teachers we can make no complaint—the children must be taught, and as neither the responsibility nor the emolument of teaching the rising generation makes much appeal to the young man, the girls will have to fill the need. But by no means all the girls who leave the farms become school teachers; many more go into offices and shops and factories. They do not go in the hope of making their fortunes, or becoming the heads of big business concerns, or if they do, few realize their ambitions; the best they can look forward to is a comfortable livelihood, with the possibility of marriage, for which their work by no means tends to fit them. Yet for many of these girls it is imperative that they make a living; perhaps the family finances cannot be stretched sufficiently far to go around, or it may be that a brother has married and they have been crowded out, or possibly it is a wholesome desire to exist by their own exertions; and with a few—Heaven prosper their efforts!—it is the quenchless ambition to spend themselves in the service of humanity. The tendency of our educational system seems to have been to educate the girls away from the country. It does not direct their atten-

tion to the farm, either for their pleasure or for the more practical matter of making a living in their own resources. How many, I wonder, looking back on their school days can recall a single effort made to fit them for a life on the farm either in the way of filling them with pride in the farmer's place in the community or teaching them that nothing can exceed the simple pleasure in growing and living things. With some shame I confess that it is not very long ago that I looked upon the discussion of the prices of butter and eggs and the best methods of raising turkeys as exceedingly petty, as, indeed, it can be, if viewed from a narrow, personal standard, but when viewed as a part of the great scheme of existence it takes on another meaning. And so our girls, when face to face with the vital problem of making a living rarely look towards the farm, instead they gravitate to the towns to swell the already over-full ranks of the wage-earners and drain the country of the fresh young life which it so greatly needs.

And now, oh dear women readers of the C. B. J., all this preamble is only preparatory to an expression of our firm belief that bee-keeping offers a most remunerative and healthful and interesting employment to women in the country; the great wonder is that they haven't turned their attention to it largely long ago. It is the object of this department to stimulate the interest of the women of Canada in this most promising industry that many may be induced to enter it on their own account. We do not propose to put men out of business; indeed, it will be necessary for long enough to have the enterprise and experience of

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